



**Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller**

December 16, 2016

## **Lake County Audit Reveals Familiar Problems**

Tennessee Comptroller Justin P. Wilson has released Lake County's annual audit which reveals a number of weaknesses and deficiencies in government operations.

The fiscal year 2016 audit report includes 11 findings spread throughout several county offices. Many of the findings within the report have been highlighted in previous Lake County audits. County officials should take immediate steps to correct each of the problems.

Auditors had to adjust the county's financial statements by \$254,658 to correct year-end financial statements. There were also problems with expenditures exceeding budget appropriations, purchasing procedures, reconciling accounts, and several other accounting and bookkeeping processes.

The Comptroller recommends Lake County adopt a centralized system of accounting, budgeting, and purchasing instead of handling these processes separately within county departments. The Comptroller believes this is a best practice to improve financial accountability and the quality of services provided to citizens.

"Lake County has had more than 10 audit findings in three of the last four annual audits," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "County leaders should be working with the Audit Committee to address each of these problems. Lake County must show sustained progress in its effort to improve government operations."

To view the audit online, go to: <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/la/>

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